

Deminucula seguenzai La Perna, 2007 junior synonym of *Nucula extrigona* Sacco, 1898 (Bivalvia, Nuculidae)

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Abstract

Nucula extrigona Sacco, 1898 and *Deminucula seguenzai* La Perna, 2007 are objective synonyms of *Nucula trigona* Seguenza, 1877 (non Sowerby, 1818; non Münster in Goldfuss, 1837) and the former has priority on the latter. The new combination is *Deminucula extrigona* (Sacco, 1898).

Riassunto

Nucula extrigona Sacco, 1898 e *Deminucula seguenzai* La Perna, 2007 sono sinonimi oggettivi di *Nucula trigona* Seguenza, 1877 (non Sowerby, 1818; non Münster in Goldfuss, 1837). Il primo ha priorità sul secondo e la nuova combinazione è *Deminucula extrigona* (Sacco, 1898).

Key words

Nuculidae, *Deminucula*, nomenclature, Plio-Pleistocene, Mediterranean.

Introduction

In a recent paper, La Perna (2007) revised the genus *Deminucula* Iredale, 1931 in the Mediterranean Plio-Pleistocene. The genus includes three species: *D. striatissima* (Seguenza, 1877), *D. seguenzai* La Perna, 2007 and *D. calabra* La Perna, 2007. *Deminucula seguenzai* was proposed as a replacement name for *Nucula trigona* Seguenza, 1877 non Sowerby, 1818, non Münster in Goldfuss, 1837. Lateley, a senior replacement name for *Nucula trigona* Seguenza was found in Sacco (1898).

Discussion

When describing *Nucula oligotrigona*, an Oligocene species from Sassello (Liguria), Sacco (1898: p. 49) wrote: "Ricordo qui incidentalmente che il nome *N. trigona* Segu. 1877 non può sussistere preesistendo *N. trigona* Sow.; le cangierei il nome in *N. extrigona* Sacc. 1898" ("Incidentally, I remind that *N. trigona* Seguenza, 1877 cannot be used, because of the pre-existence of *N. trigona* Sowerby. I would change the name to *N. extrigona* Sacco, 1898").

Nucula oligotrigona Sacco, 1898 was described from a single, closed shell. The original illustration is poor and the holotype is neither at the "Museo Geologico di Roma", as stated by Sacco in the captions of plate 11, nor in the Bellardi & Sacco collection (Turin, Museo Regionale di Scienze Naturali). However, it is markedly different from *N. trigona* Seguenza in several respects (e.g. it is much larger, 15 mm in shell length, than Seguenza's species) and Sacco's comments simply sprang from the assonance between *trigona* and *oligotrigona*.

The replacement name *Nucula extrigona* Sacco, 1898 was validly proposed and has priority on its objective junior synonym *Deminucula seguenzai* La Perna, 2007. The new combination for this species is *Deminucula extrigona* (Sacco, 1898).

References

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